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THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" Let us await the report from the Superintending Engineer."

SRI M. VEERABHADRAM :—" ఈ విషయంలో ప్రభుత్వం తుది నిర్ణయానికి రావటానికి యింకా ఎంతకాలంపడుతుందో సెలవిస్తారాండి ?"

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" I have already said that we are awaiting the report from the Superintending Engineer. When it is received, it will be sent to the Board of Revenue and only after that we have to take a final decision."

SRI G. ANJANEYULU :—" మంత్రిగారు ఏమి చెప్పుతున్నారో సరిగా మాకు తెలియలేదు. వారు చెప్పే సమాధానం clearగా చెప్పితే మేము తెలుసుకోవీలవుతుంది."

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" సూపరింటెండింగు యింజనీరు తయారుచేసిన రిపోర్టు గవర్నమెంటుకు అందిన తర్వాత దానిని రెవిన్యూ బోర్డుకు పంపి దానిపైన వచ్చిన రిపోర్టును పరిశీలించి గవర్నమెంటు తీర్మానం చేస్తారని చెప్పాను."

SRI C. SUBBARAYUDU :—" As most of the schemes in the Rayalaseema cannot be taken up for execution if this return of 2½ per cent is insisted, may I know whether the Government will lessen it to 1 per cent or completely waive that condition so far as Rayalaseema is concerned? "

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" This test of 2½ per cent has been fixed in cases where we get the grant from the Central Government. Regarding the other irrigation works, we have not prescribed this rigid test. We examine the other schemes on their merits and even if the return is below 2½ per cent we take up some schemes on certain occasions."

Declaration of the birthday of Thiruvalluvar as holiday.

* 65 *Q.*—SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state— a.m.

(*a*) whether the Government received a copy of the resolution passed at the inaugural meeting of Purasawalkam Kuralneri Kazhagam asking for declaration of the birthday of Thiruvalluvar as a holiday for the Government offices and schools; and

(*b*) the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" (*a*) & (*b*) No copy of the resolution appears to have been received by the Government. Government are of the opinion that they cannot go on adding ' no work ' days to the present large list and that the best way of celebrating the memory of great men is by doing more work."

SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN :—" Are the Government aware of the strong feeling among the Tamils that the Goverment have refused to give due recognition to the services of Tamil scholars and poets by observing holidays on their birthdays? "

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THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" I have already stated that recognition is not considered due if given in the shape of holidays."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Is the Hon. Chief Minister aware of the exact day of the year when Tiruvalluvar was born, apart from the question whether it should be declared a holiday or not? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" I am thankful for the explanation that we do not have accurate ideas as to the exact date of birth of Tiruvalluvar. But that is not the reason really why no holiday can be declared. It is unnecessary to go on increasing our holidays, and also I might explain that holidays are generally recognized as proper if some religious ritual is connected with the day, as we do not wish to interfere with the normal religious ceremonies followed according to one's practice."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Have the Government taken any other steps than the declaration of a holiday in order to commemorate the services of the poet, politician and public worker? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" 'Tirukkural' is largely prescribed as text-book."

Harijans employed through the Employment Exchange.

* 66 Q.—SRI A. RATHINAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state how many Harijans were provided with employment through the Employment Exchanges last year?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" 3,359 Harijans."

SRI A. RATHINAM :—" May I know whether all of them are continuing in service? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I am afraid I cannot answer that question because the original question is how many were provided with employment through the Employment Exchanges. We have no method of follow up. I can, therefore, only say that 3,359 Harijans were provided with employment."

DR. K. B. MENON :—" Have the Government figures of the total number of applications received by the Employment Exchange and the total percentage of applicants employed? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" The total number of applicants was 6,674 and the total employed was, as I have already said, 3,359."

SRI P. VENKATASUBBIAH :—" As it is not the practice in all cases for the departments to notify the Employment Exchange, may I know why the Government should not issue instructions to the heads of departments to notify vacancies to the Employment Exchanges? "